

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 218912  
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DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:JGHUFF:MTH

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EUR/SOV:WTSHINN

EUR/SOV:RWFARRAND

-----130805 290206Z /73

P 290113Z AUG 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, UR

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL REQUEST RE CONSULAR MATTERS

1. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING BRIEF, REPEAT BRIEF, ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS POSED BY GROUP OF 19 CONGRESSMEN.

2. RE CONSULAR CONVENTION AND PROTOCOL (SIGNED 6/1/64; ENTERED INTO FORCE 7/13/68) ARTICLE ,2 (AND THE PROTOCOL)

--HAVE U.S. CONSULAR OFFICIALS HAD ANY DIFFICULTY IN MEETING WITH, COMMUNICATING WITH, ASSISTING, ADVISING, OR ARRANGING LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR U.S. NATIONALS ARRESTED OR OTHERWISE DETAINED IN CUSTODY IN THE SOVIET UNION?

--ARE SOVIET OFFICIALS PROMPT IN NOTIFYING U.S. CONSULAR OFFICERS OF THE ARREST OR DETENTION OF U.S. NATIONALS BY THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES? DO SOVIET OFFICIALS EVER EXCEED  
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THE THREE-DAY TIME LIMIT FOR NOTIFICATION ?

--DO SOVIET OFFICIALS EVER EXCEED THE FOUR-DAY LIMIT ON THE TIME IN WHICH A U.S. CONSULAR OFFICER MAY FIRST VISIT AND COMMUNICATE WITH AN AMERICAN NATIONAL WHO IS UNDER ARREST OR OTHERWISE DETAINED IN CUSTODY IN THE SOVIET UNION?

--HAVE SOVIET OFFICIALS EVER RESTRICTED THE ACCESS OF U.S. NATIONALS TO U.S. CONSULAR ESTABLISHMENTS?

3. ARTICLE 17

--HAVE SOVIET OFFICIALS EVER FAILED TO OBSERVE THE INVIO-  
LABILITY OF U.S. CONSULAR BUILDINGS, PARTS OF BUILDINGS,  
ANCILLARY LAND, OR CONSULAR ARCHIVES?

4. ARTICLE 18

--HAVE SOVIET OFFICIALS EVER FAILED TO OBSERVE THE INVIO-  
LABILITY OF THE OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF A CONSULAR  
ESTABLISHMENT?

5. ARTICLE 27

--WITH THE EXCEPTION OF RESTRICTIONS DUE TO NATIONAL  
SECURITY, HAVE SOVIET OFFICIALS EVER IMPINGED ON THE FREE  
TRAVEL OF U.S. CONSULAR OFFICERS?

6. RE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES (EXCHANGE OF NOTES  
10/17/67 AND 3/1/68; ENTERED INTO FORCE 3/1/68).

--HAS THE SOVIET UNION EVER FAILED TO LIVE UP TO COMMIT-  
MENTS IT HAS MADE REGARDING THE EXTENSION OF DIPLOMATIC  
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PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES TO U.S. NON-DIPLOMATIC EMBASSY  
PERSONNEL?

7. RE PASSPORT VISAS (EXCHANGE OF NOTES 3/26/58, 8/11/58  
AND 8/20/58; ENTERED INTO FORCE 8/20/58) AND VISAS FOR  
CORRESPONDENTS (EXCHANGE OF NOTES 9/29/75; ENTERED INTO  
FORCE 9/29/75).

--HAS THE SOVIET UNION FAILED TO COMPLY IN ANY WAY WITH  
THE TERMS OF THESE TWO AGREEMENTS? CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014